

IN THE CLAIMS:

The currently pending claims are as follows:

1-7. (canceled)

8. (previously presented) Brush sealing ring for use as a sealing element between components which can move relative to one another, in particular between a rotor and a stator as an element which is fixed to the stator, having an annular housing and having a multiplicity of aramid fiber-based bristles which are attached within the housing and protrude radially or axially out of the contour of the housing and whose free end faces form tangents with an imaginary, rotationally symmetrical or planar face, the bristles being composed of sections of strands of aramid fibers which are present in a wound arrangement, each section running in a loop shape around a core extending away from it without crossing over in such a way that its two end faces form tangents with the same imaginary face which is spaced apart from the core, and the sections being arranged around the core in a plurality of layers one on top of the other and being secured in a fixed fashion with a clamping section,

wherein the strands are composed exclusively of fine, angel hair-like aramid fibers and the bristles formed from the strands have a diameter of less than one-tenth of a millimeter,

wherein the clamping section is prestressed by elastic cross-sectional widening, and

wherein sections of the strands are secured between the core and the clamping section exclusively by means of frictional locking which is dependent on

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APPEAL, VP, 1/18/05